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Africa and the Peace of Europe. By E. D. MOREL. New York: B. W. Heubsch, 1917, 123 pp.

No student of modern imperialism or of contemporary world politics can afford to remain unacquainted with this admirable book. Although written amid the chaos of war when the judgment and common sense of civilized mankind had in large measure been supplanted by barbaric hatred, blind prejudice and unbalanced mental outlook, this little volume is characterized by sanity, sincerity and clear perspective.

The many problems which seriously disturb the peace of the world may, the author believes, be divided into two categories: problems of nationality and problems of economics. Africa, which is typical of the second group, has from earliest times profoundly affected the destinies of Europe. To a large extent the direct and indirect causes of the Great War were rooted in the African question. After a brief discussion of the distribution of European sovereignty in Africa in 1914 Mr. Morel points out that this continent, which is unique in that the greater part of it lies within the Torrid zone, falls into three main divisions: (1) where climatic and other conditions permit of Europeans rearing families of healthy children, and establishing the foundations of a European community in the true sense of the term; (2) where climatic conditions, while not entirely favorable to white colonization are not wholly unfavorable, but where numbers, capacities, or characteristics of the indigenous population are such as to render white colonization impracticable; (3) where climatic conditions make the evolution of any European community totally out of the question.

In non-colonisable Africa, comprising approximately all that territory between the 18th parallel north latitude and the 15th parallel south latitude, ninety Europeans out of every hundred must constantly struggle to preserve their health. Yet within these limits lies the natural home of all those tropical products which the modern industrialism of Europe requires in ever-increasing quantities. If European administration in this non-colonisable territory is to be inspired by a decent sense of trusteeship the author believes that six basic principles must be observed: (1) The preservation of the land for the peoples of the land by whom alone its natural resources can be developed. This implies preservation both from the European exploiter and from privileged natives. (2) The preservation of native institutions from the solvent effect of European contact. (3) The preservation of the principle of free trade or of the proprietary right of the natives in the

products of their land. In other words, the natives should not be bamboozled and robbed. (4) Regulation of the operations of trade in order to preclude the creation of combines and monopolies. (5) The abolition of artificial restrictions upon trade such as tariffs. (6) Encouragement of native industries. These principles, it is asserted, can best be realized by the neutralization of the non-colonisable zone and by internationalizing commercial activities within the neutralized area.

The sections dealing with the characteristics of European rule in Africa, the Berlin Conference of 1884-1885, the future distribution of European sovereign rights and the problem of German growth are concisely stated and productive of thought.

If the neutralization of the non-colonisable area of Africa, the internationalization of European commercial activities within that area, and such a distribution of territorial sovereignty as would secure to Germany a participation commensurate alike with her past achievements in Africa and with her economic needs, should be the aims of an enlightened statesmanship, as Mr. Morel believes they should (p. 115), then by this test it would appear that the Paris Conference did not merit supreme praise. Apparently at least, it did not remove one of the most potent causes of international ill-will.

Although equipped with two sketch maps and a workable index, it is regrettable that this monograph is printed on such cheap paper and that it is not bound in cloth.

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Weltgeschichte der letzten hundert Jahre, 1815-1920. By EDUARD FUETER. Zürich, Von Schulthess & Co, 1921, 674 pp.

Perhaps the most vigorous exhortation in H. G. Wells' *Outline of History* was that historians attempt to write history from the point of view of a world outlook rather than from a narrow and artificial nationalistic type of arrangement and exposition. We have before us a highly successful effort to present the history of the last century according to this criterion for the reconstruction of historiography. It comes not from an amateur in historical writing, but from one of the most distinguished and progressive of European historians, Professor Eduard Fueter of Zürich. The author is already well known to American students through his monograph *Der Anteil der Eidgenossenschaft an der Wahl Karls V*, his masterly survey of the political origins of the modern age,